

THE EVENING MISSOURIAN

ELEVENTH YEAR

COLUMBIA, MISSOURI, FRIDAY EVENING, MARCH 21, 1919.

NUMBER 171

INCREASED SALARY ASKED BY TEACHERS

Desire 33 1/2 Per Cent Raise
—Would Solicit Public
Sentiment.

LOW TAX INTERFERES

State Law Fixes Maximum
School Levy, Thereby
Limiting Pay.

A movement has been started among the Columbia school teachers to ask the School Board for 33 1/2 per cent increase in salary. Sentiment among the townspeople is being ascertained before the increase is asked. It is hoped that a favorable sentiment may be aroused to devise a means for the board to grant the raise in pay. "So far as known, there is no disposition on the part of the board or the superintendent of schools to refuse such an increase if funds can be provided."

J. E. McPherson, superintendent of schools, said this morning that the school board is going the limit in salaries now and is helpless as far as paying the increase is concerned.

"There are only three ways this demand could be met successfully," said Mr. McPherson. "The first is by changing the state constitution, thereby allowing us to levy more than \$1 on \$100 assessed valuation; the second method would be by the city increasing its assessed valuation, and the third by having the board of equalization assess property at its actual value."

The Present Tax Rate.

The Columbia school tax is now \$1.30, divided as follows: Maintenance \$1, sinking fund 10 cents, and interest fund 20 cents. The sinking and interest funds can be increased to meet the demands of the locality, but none of this can be paid toward maintenance, which includes teachers' salaries and incidental expense of upkeep.

"The conditions are the same in all middle-sized cities in Missouri. The constitution forbids them to levy a tax greater than \$1 on \$100 assessed valuation. Columbia is levying the maximum now," said Mr. McPherson. Mr. McPherson gave the following figures as the approximate maintenance fund of the Columbia public school district for this year:

District taxes	\$41,274.37
Tuition	2,500.00
Interest on bank money	500.00
State Money	11,980.26
Other sources of revenue	226.63
Delinquent tax	3,500.00

Total \$59,981.26

Mr. McPherson pointed out that there is no way of estimating the delinquent tax exactly. He said the approximate yearly income of the school district is \$60,000.

The expenditures under the maintenance fund for 1918 are as follows:

Teachers' salaries	\$39,535.00
Incidental expenses	20,000.00

Total \$59,535.00

Where the Money Goes.

The superintendent's budget showed that the incidental expenses that must be met out of the dollar tax included janitors' salaries \$5,000, coal \$4,000, water, light and gas \$1,000, insurance \$1,200, general repairs \$1,500, new equipment \$1,000, and the rest for supplies, libraries, printing and other incidentals.

"So you see it is impossible for the school board to pay the teachers more when the income and expenditure are just breaking even. We started out last July with a deficit of \$283.94 in the maintenance fund. If you had \$100 and a man whom you wished to employ refused to work unless you had \$200, what would you do?" questioned Mr. McPherson.

"A state educational committee has been trying to get a new constitution for some time whereby we can get a higher rate of taxation. It is up to the people of the state. A school board cannot decide it."

There are sixty full-time teachers and two part-time teachers in Columbia. In 1907 the average salary was \$53 dollars a month; in 1918 it was \$58. The highest average monthly salary was paid in 1916—\$61 a month. "Last year the assessed valuation recommended by the tax commission was ten million dollars. The board of equalization cut it down to five millions. Had it remained at the original figure, every teacher's salary could have been doubled."

Columbia teachers who plan to meet with Superintendent McPherson at 4:15 at the Gordon Hotel this afternoon do not blame the school board, as they believe everything possible has been done by its members. They believe it lies with the people of the community to increase the assessed valuation of local property, or with the people of the state to change the constitution.

Miss Ethel Zillman Taken Home Ill.

Miss Ethel Zillman, who has been a patient at the Parker Memorial Hospital, has been taken to her home in Keytesville. Mrs. Kate Chinn of Beaumont, Tex., was admitted for operation.

THE WEATHER

For Columbia and vicinity: Generally fair and cool tonight and Saturday. Lowest temperature tonight, about 35.

For Missouri: Generally fair tonight and Saturday. Warmer Saturday north-west portion.

Shippers' Forecast: Within a radius of 200 miles of Columbia the lowest temperature during the next 24 hours will be 30 west; 28 north; 28 east and south.

Weather Conditions.

Fair and cold weather has prevailed in all of the northern border states; and overcast skies and somewhat colder weather than yesterday obtains in the middle Mississippi and lower Missouri valleys, and Central Plains, but no marked cold is expected to reach the lower Missouri.

There has been no precipitation anywhere east of the Rocky Mountains but a storm development is giving rain and snow in the southern rocky Mountain region.

In Columbia there will be some cloudiness but generally fair and chilly weather will continue over Saturday. There is some doubt about Sunday owing to the present uncertainty of development and movement of the Rocky Mountain disturbance.

Local Data.

The highest temperature in Columbia yesterday was 72; and the lowest last night was 38. Precipitation 0.00. Relative humidity noon yesterday was 41 per cent. A year ago yesterday the highest temperature was 74 and the lowest was 32. Precipitation 0.00.

Sun rose today 6:11 a. m. Sun sets 6:22 p. m. Moon rises 11:26 p. m.

The Temperatures Today.

7 a. m.	38	12 noon	45
8 a. m.	39	1 p. m.	46
9 a. m.	41	2 p. m.	47
10 a. m.	43	3 p. m.	48
11 a. m.	45	4 p. m.	50

The First Day of Spring

Astronomically speaking, spring began this morning at 10:19 o'clock when the sun crossed the equator on its way north. The time and day varies slightly from year to year, according to astronomers, depending on leap year.

From the meteorologist's point of view, however, the opening of Spring is based on the temperature. The mean daily minimum temperature taken at Mexico, Mo., during the thirty years 1878 to 1907 show that the average minimum first rose above 32 degrees on March 10. However, this was not considered the opening of spring by the meteorologists because the minimum dropped and remained below 32 degrees until about March 17. On March 18 the temperature rose above the freezing point and remained above and was considered the opening of spring. Should the minimum have dropped below 32 degrees for a day or two it would have had no effect on determining the opening of spring.

March 2 was the last day so far of this year that the thermometer registered lower than 32 degrees. The average date for four years of the first leafing of the soft maple in Boone County is April 10.

BRITISH LABOR CRISIS

Miners, Rail and Transport
Workers Threaten General Strike.

By ARTHUR E. MANN

(United Press Staff Correspondent)

LONDON, March 21.—Great Britain is facing the greatest labor crisis in its history. It will culminate tonight when the "Triple Alliance"—miners, railroad men and transport workers—meet to decide whether a general strike is to be called tomorrow.

The miners are voting this afternoon on the government's compromise offer. This concedes the miners shorter hours and higher wages, but defers decision regarding nationalization of the mines. The miners have demanded that nationalization be undertaken immediately.

The railroad workers voted this afternoon to reject the government's offer, which met a portion of their demands.

Premier Lloyd George, discussing the situation in England in Paris, delay in signing the peace treaty was largely responsible. He said he did not believe the labor men would resort to force.

Both sides refuse to make an official statement but a leader of the railroad men made the following declaration to the United Press:

"We prepared for the worst. If we strike, we will win. If we win the government will fall, and will be replaced by a labor ministry. The government realizes the seriousness of a general strike. It will mean that thousands of people in the great industrial districts will face starvation as the government would be unable to run enough trains to insure distribution of sufficient food."

GROWS \$500 IN ONE DAY

Commercial Club Campaign Reaches \$2,500 Mark Since Yesterday.

The total amount of money obtained in the Commercial Club campaign has reached \$2,500. This is an increase of \$500 since yesterday.

Capitol Grounds to Be Improved.

A bill appropriating \$25,000 to be used for improving the grounds of the state capitol was engrossed by the House of Representatives yesterday. The Capitol Building commission, the work of which virtually ends with this bill, purpose to be spent under the supervision of the commission on permanent seat of government.

SCORES COLUMBIANS ON MODERN DANCES

Rev. Coale Believes All
Dancing Indecent and in
Need of Reform.

CRITICIZES CHURCH

Holds Dance Hall Responsible
for Many Divorces—
Crowd Hears Sermon.

Take out of the dance the element of "hugging to music" and dancing will be stale and ready for the discard, said the Rev. D. L. Coale, the Texas evangelist, who is holding meetings at the Broadway Methodist Church, in his sermon last night.

"Dancing," he asserts, "is largely responsible for certain social conditions that exist in Columbia."

That the dance hall is the nursery of the divorce court and the moral graveyard of the nation's young men and women, are some of the other accusations the evangelist made in his sermon.

"All dances," in the opinion of Reverend Coale, "are indecent and in need of reform. Illustrations of their demoralizing and physiological effects upon young manhood and young womanhood are to be found on every hand."

Besides this, dancing is the greatest enemy of the organized church. Young men and young women," he observes, "who learn the dances are last to be won over to the church."

He criticized the church for not properly looking after the social needs and the social welfare of the young people of the community. He scored the church member for dancing.

"It is wrong for the Christian to dance," he said, "because of the bad example and because it renders him useless in bringing others into Christian ways of living."

Mr. Coale will preach tonight on "The Three Roads Out of Columbia That Lead to Hell."

The sermon last night on dancing attracted a crowd which filled both the main auditorium and the Sunday school room of the church. A large number went forward after the meeting to make profession of faith.

ORGANIZATION ABOUT COMPLETE

Working Students' Council to Promote Co-operation and Good Will.

The Working Students' Council to promote a spirit of co-operation and good will between students and the employers of student labor is now engaged upon a constitution and is getting organized for effective work in the fall.

The sponsorship of some members of the faculty is being sought to aid in this. It is hoped that not only will there be more cordial relations between students and employers but that the wages of student labor will be materially increased.

LOWER STEEL PRICES

Reductions of 25 to 35 Per
Cent Are in Effect
Today.

By United Press.

WASHINGTON, March 21.—Lower steel prices are effective today as the result of an agreement between the Industries Board and fifteen "steel kings" after a two days' conference.

The reductions thus far announced show a price decrease of from 25 to 35 per cent below the prices agreed upon by the Industries Board and the steel industries for the last quarter of 1918. They show a reduction of from 14 to 18 per cent below the price the steel men themselves have put into practice since the Industries Board ceased its control.

The agreements were the result of the first efforts the Industries Board made to bring down and stabilize war prices. Its success indicates that little difficulty will be encountered in lowering other prices by similar methods.

Judge E. H. Gary of the United States Steel Corporation predicted "great business progress and prosperity in the near future" at the meeting this afternoon.

ARMY TROUPE WELL RECEIVED

Kelly Field Players, Here Tomorrow,
Draw Good Crowds at Boonville.

The Kelly Field Players, with a cast of twenty vaudeville stars, who will present performances at the Hall Theater tomorrow afternoon and night, were well received in their appearance at Boonville yesterday, according to word received here today. They played to crowded houses at both performances.

This is the only official show in the American Army. Its members, still in service, are on the road by special permission of the War Department. They are from the great aviation field at Fort Worth, Tex.

The show carries its own soldier orchestra. The performers will present eight acts, ranging from blackface comedy to musical selections.

The sale of reserved seats opened this morning.

CAN PEACE OUTRACE POVERTY IN EUROPE?

Committees Work Day and
Night to Complete
Work.

SWISS PLAN GOOD

May Make Possible Agreement
on League Covenant
Tomorrow.

By FRED S. FERGUSON

(United Press Staff Correspondent)

Paris, March 21.—The race between peace, plunder and poverty is now on.

With the advent of spring the question of whether peace, stability and reconstruction are to prevail during the coming months or whether Central Europe, at least, will be convulsed in a sanguinary struggle will soon be answered.

Bolshevik forces are known to be concentrated on the Rumanian front. The Rumanians say they have definite information that the Bolsheviks intend to strike as soon as the weather becomes favorable. The Poles are now involved in a constant isolated struggle and it is believed to be only a matter of time until the full storm breaks. Owing to the shortage of raw material and the consequent lack of employment it is certain to be a question of whether the present Zech-Slovak government survives. Sooner or later, reports from various sources state, the Ebert government in Germany is likely to fall.

The situation has set every peace committee here working on practically all day and night schedule.

When the Allies insist that the Germans allow the Polish troops who have been fighting in France to return to Poland through Danzig it means they are insisting not only upon aiding Poland but upon saving Germany from the effects of the Bolshevik boomerang launched by German militarists.

It is a close race. The next few weeks are expected to tell the results.

By WM. PHILIP SIMS

(United Press Staff Correspondent)

PARIS, March 21.—Recommendations by neutrals were believed today to have greatly clarified the League of Nations situation increasing the possibility of reaching a complete agreement on the revised covenant by tomorrow.

The most important suggestion by neutral representatives was that of the Swiss delegation who submitted a memorandum that is expected to eliminate opposition in certain American quarters to non-inclusion of the Monroe Doctrine. The Swiss urged continued recognition of the declaration of 1815 whereby the great powers proclaimed the neutrality and inviolability of Switzerland from foreign influence in the great interest of politics of the whole of Europe.

This proposal is regarded in American circles as strictly a European "Monroe Doctrine" paving the way for incorporation under the League of Nations from foreign influence in the general interest of the politics of the whole western continent.

It had not been fully determined today whether a plenary session will be called tomorrow to open on the league constitution, but the feeling prevailed that matters have progressed to the extent where such a meeting is possible.

The Supreme War Council's meeting this afternoon was expected to take up further reparation and German boundaries.

GIFT TO UNIVERSITY

Joseph K. Gwynn Leaves
\$50,000 For Domestic
Science School.

A dispatch from New York says the Agricultural College of the University of Missouri will receive \$50,000 on the death of Mrs. Joseph K. Gwynn, widow of the former secretary of the American Tobacco Company, according to the will of Gwynn, filed in New York yesterday.

The money is to be used in founding a school of domestic science in memory of Mrs. Gwynn.

Mr. and Mrs. Gwynn formerly lived in Morgan County, Missouri. He was interested in the developing of agriculture in the state and has offered prizes for the students in the College of Agriculture.

REED'S CHALLENGE ACCEPTED

Fifty Legislators Agree to Resign and
Have General Election.

By United Press.

JEFFERSON CITY, March 21.—Senator Reed's challenge to resign "from president to constable" and have a general election with the League of Nations as the issue was accepted by fifty Democratic members of the Legislature today.

The members signed a round robin, agreeing to accept, so far as they are concerned, Reed's proposal.

THE CALENDAR

March 24—Play Reading Club, Faculty Room, University Library, 7:30 p. m.

March 24-28.—Dr. Eleanor Bertine will give four lectures to University women in the University Auditorium, 4 p. m.

March 28—Kansas-Missouri debate in University Auditorium.

Mar. 29—W. A. A. Vandeville 8 o'clock University Auditorium.

April 1—School Election.

April 1—Last day for handing in orations for the Stephens Oratorical Contest.

April 2-4—J. Stitt Wilson will speak to University students on Social Christianity.

April 4—All-Student Election.

April 4-6—Convention of state officers of the Y.M.C.A.

April 9—Home Concert of the Glee and Mandolin Clubs in the University Auditorium at 8:15 p. m.

April 11—The "Victory" Farmer's Fair.

April 12—Spring Festival.

April 12—Seventy-Eighth Anniversary Banquet of Athenaeum Debating Society.

April 20-23—Commencement.

April 21—Liberty Loan opens.

April 21—Senior Ball at Rothwell Gymnasium.

April 29—Vote on the bond issue for proposed county hospital.

May 5-9—Journalism Week.

May 12-13 and 14—Convention of Funeral Directors Association.

May 17—Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra concert.

TAKE M'GANN EAST

Will Answer Robbery Charge
There—Columbians to
Share Reward.

Constable Fred Brown and Emil Batterton returned from St. Louis this morning where they went Wednesday night to bring back Frank McGann and Ralph Harding who were arrested by the police there on a warrant for their arrest issued here.

The police refused to give up the men because of the expected arrival this morning of detectives from the East to identify McGann, also known as Roy Tyler, who is thought to have some connection with bank robberies in Brooklyn, N. Y. and Cleveland, O.

Constable Brown and Prosecuting Attorney George S. Starrett, who caused the arrest of the men, have entered their claim for a portion of the \$3,500 reward which is offered for the arrest of McGann.

Detective Roddy of the New York office and another man from Rochester, N. Y. was expected to arrive in St. Louis this morning. Constable Brown said. A representative from the Pinkerton Detective Agency at Hot Springs, Ark., came yesterday.

McGann readily admits to the police that he is the man described in the circulars relative to the bank robberies in Brooklyn and Cleveland and also in a motor car theft in Oakland, Cal. He told the St. Louis police he would go to Brooklyn without demanding extradition papers to answer the charge there and his wife, who is also charged with the motor car theft, has agreed to go to California to answer the charges there.

So far no charge has been placed against Harding and his wife who were in McGann's car when the party was arrested. Harding says that he is a veterinary surgeon and runs a bird and animal store in Kansas City. The police are awaiting further information from Kansas City before releasing him.

GERMANS FORM UNION

Would Incorporate With
Austria—Allies Oppose
Movement.

By United Press.

COPENHAGEN, March 21.—The German National Assembly has voted in favor of incorporating German Austria and Germany. It was announced in a Weimar dispatch today.

The latest reports from Vienna stated the bill for the union of the two countries had passed its third reading.

The reported action of the assembly has created a serious situation as the dispatch from Paris agrees the Allies are unanimously opposed to the proposed union.

Some advices have indicated the Germans will be asked to refute the union when it comes time to sign the preliminary peace treaty.

TWO CAPTURED 68 GERMANS

University Graduate Awarded a Distinguished Service Cross.

Lieutenant Rex V. McPherson, a former student in the University, has been awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for valor displayed during the second battle of the Marne. Lieutenant McPherson went out with a sergeant, and brought in one German officer and sixty-seven privates, prisoners of war. He has also been cited for bravery on other occasions.

Give Projectoscope to Christian.

The 1918 class of Christian College recently made a gift to the college of a projectoscope machine, similar to a stereopticon machine.

U. S. S. to Play Boonville.

The University High School basketball team will play the team of Boonville at Boonville High School March 28.

MISSOURIANS IN FAR EAST FIND SUCCESS

Dean Williams Says They
Are Also Prominent In
State Affairs.

BACK FROM ORIENT

Missouri Society of Japan,
Recently Organized, Has
Forty Members.

"Missourians in the Far East are unusually successful in their different lines of work," said Dean Walter Williams this morning. He has just returned from a trip to the Orient. "Anywhere you may go in Japan, China, Korea, Siberia and Manchuria, you will find Missourians who are doing exceptionally well."

The Missouri Society of Japan has recently been organized by Missourians in that country. There are at present about forty members, some of the most prominent ones being Dr. S. H. Wainwright, formerly of Shelbyville, who is president of the society; Alfonso Johnson, former manager of the University Co-Operative Store; Robert F. Moss, son of D. D. Moss, of Columbia; W. E. Schenck, a former student in the School of Engineering of the University; H. H. Kinyon, former University publisher, who is associate editor of the Trans-Pacific Magazine, and Mrs. H. H. Kinyon; Frank H. King, a former instructor in the School of Journalism of the University, who is working on the Japan Advertiser. L. A. Vorica of St. Joseph, an architect. N. D. Gardner of Lexington, an architect and builder; Miss Irene Fisher; Miss Jewell Palmer, Miss Mary D. Jesse, and Mrs. Alice Arnold Watson.

The society has elected two honorary members, Dean Walter Williams and Bishop W. F. McMurphy, of the Methodist Church.

Missourians in China are also prominent in the affairs of the country, according to Dean Williams. J. B. Powell, who was formerly an instructor in the School of Journalism of the University, is editor of Millard's Review in Shanghai and is secretary of the American Chamber of Commerce. His wife and his sister, Miss Margaret Powell, are with him.

In Peking, Carl Crow, a former student in the School of Journalism, is head of the American Committee on Public Information for the Orient, and he is connected with the Chinese-American News Agency. H. K. Tong, also a former journalism student, is government secretary there. W. G. Pettus is director of the Modern Language School, and Thomas E. Breese is professor of English in the University of Peking. Hin Wung, a graduate of the University, is editor of the Canton Times, the leading paper of southern China.

Some of the most prominent Missourians in Honolulu are: Mr. and Mrs. Chas. F. Loomis, Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Killam, Paul Steele and R. L. Richards, who is advertising manager of the Honolulu Star-Bulletin. In the Philippines Chas. E. Yeater, formerly of Sedalia and at one time a member of the Board of Curators of the University, is vice-governor. Roy C. Bennett, a graduate of the School of Journalism, is telegraph editor of the Miller Cable News.

"These are only a few of the Missourians who are at work in the Far East," Dean Williams said. "There are many others whose work over there any Missourian would be proud to see."

227 CASES FOR APRIL TERM

Divorce Suits and Liquor Cases Prominent on Docket.

The docket of the Circuit Court for the April term, which starts April 7, shows 227 cases filed to come up for trial.

Violations of the local option law and family troubles furnish the principal legal business for this term. Thirty-two cases have been filed with Searcy Pollard, circuit clerk, alleging the illegal sale of intoxicants. Twenty-five divorce suits will come up at the April term.

There are 139 cases left over from the January term. The attorneys of Boone County will meet at 10 o'clock Monday morning to set the docket.

The new criminal cases include three charges of burglary, one of carrying a concealed weapon, one of petit larceny, two of writing illegal prescriptions, five of violation of local option law and one of arson.

Hirth to Speak in Mexico.

William Hirth of Columbia, editor of the Missouri Farmer, will speak at the courthouse in Mexico, Mo., Saturday on problems concerning the farmer.

Company H Elects Officers.

Company H of the R. O. T. C. has elected the following officers: President, M. M. Henderson; vice-president, O. D. Russell; secretary and treasurer, H. L. Page. John Murray was elected track manager and Wilbur McGinley his assistant. An entertainment committee was appointed.